

Dear Colleagues:

It is my pleasure to invite you to the 2016 Ohio University Interstate Individual Events Tournament (IIET) on January 29-30, 2016.

The tournament begins on Friday with 4 preliminary rounds and outrounds of open competition in Impromptu Debate (Parli with slightly different rules) and College Public Forum as well as prelims and finals of Interviewing and Scholarly Paper (Graduate & Undergraduate divisions). All of these events conclude on Friday evening.

On Saturday, the tournament will offer Open and Novice in all NFA IEs and Open Divisions of all PCSDL events (except Current Events). For this tournament, "Novice" is defined as first or second year in college forensics. The tournament offers two rounds and finals in all Open IE divisions and 3 rounds with no final rounds in all Novice divisions.

**Please note: We will hold GRADUATE STUDENT divisions in Scholarly Paper (Friday) and Poetry Slam (Saturday). Grad students who serve as judges are eligible to enter these events. See event descriptions for rules and details.**

On top of all of that, we will be concurrently hosting the Ohio Forensics Association Novice State Championships on Friday and Saturday. Judge pools for both tournaments will be merged and a joint awards ceremony will be held on Saturday night.

You will find all of the necessary tournament information enclosed in this invitation, including a tournament schedule, event rules, lodging and entry information. We look forward to seeing you here in Athens in January.

If you have questions about the tournament please contact Dan West at 740-593-9962 or email westd1@ohio.edu.

Respectfully,

Dan West

Director of Forensic

Ohio University

Westd1@ohio.edu Justin Gus Foote

740-569-9962 Associate Director of Forensics

Lanie Presswood Nicole Eugene

Assistant Director of Forensics Assistant Coach

**Tournament Information**

**Events:** NFA event rules apply for all individual events (AFA rules for POI). We do not limit a school’s number of entries per event, however, individuals may enter no more than three events in each pattern. Students who are entered in more than one event in any pattern are responsible for notifying their judges. Judges will not wait for contestants longer than the scheduled times. The following individual events will be offered:

Students may NOT enter IE’s and LD, though students may enter LD one day, and IE the next. College Public Forum, Impromptu (Parli) Debate and Interviewing and Scholarly Paper are held on Friday.

 **Pattern A Pattern B**

 Extemporaneous Speaking Impromptu Speaking

 Persuasive Speaking Informative Speaking

 Dramatic Duo Interpretation Prose Interpretation

 Programmed Oral Interpretation Poetry Interpretation

 Dramatic Interpretation After Dinner Speaking

 Rhetorical Criticism Radio Broadcasting

 Editorial Impromptu Audition Monologue

 Slam Poetry Duet Improv Acting

 Stand Up Comedy Ted Talks

 PowerPoint Sales Great Speeches

**Entry Deadline:** The deadline for all entries will be Tuesday, January 26, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. The deadline for changes (late adds or drops) will be Wednesday, January 27, 2016 at NOON. Late adds and drops will incur a $10 per change fee. Drops at registration are $25/slot.

**Judges:** Each school is required to provide one judge for every six individual events entries, and one judge for every two debate entries or portion thereof. Please attempt to cover your judging obligation; we would rather have your judges than your money. Dropped judges the day of the tournament will incur a $100 nuisance charge in addition to uncovered judging fees.

**Fees:** Entry fees for individual events are $10.00 per slot per tournament. Hired judges are $12.00 per slot per tournament. Entry fees for debate are $25.00 for each Interviewing/Scholarly Paper entry and $50 for each Impromptu Debate/PF team. Hired judges are $100.00 per uncovered Parli/LD/PF and $25 per Interviewing/Scholarly Paper entry.

**Parking:** You will need to pay for parking on Friday. Your two options are either the surface lot or the parking garage at the Baker University Center. The service lot utilizes the ParkMoblie App (which you can download to your phone) and the parking garage has a paystation for cash or credit cards. Parking in the Walter Hall Lot is free on Saturday. Parking are monitored 24/7 and you will need to either pay with coins or utilizing the ParkMobile App.

**Lodging:** The Ohio University Inn & Conference Center is delighted to offer preferred rates to those with the Ohio University Forensics Tournament.

The Inn is the closest hotel to the campus of Ohio University and is also Athens only full service hotel. Amenities include:  Complimentary Hi-Speed wireless internet, 24 hour business and fitness centers, Cutler's restaurant, Bunch of Grapes Tavern, In-room coffee makers, irons with ironing boards.  The bike- jogging path is within walking distance of the hotel as well as many uptown restaurants and shopping.

For reservations under the "Ohio University Forensics Tournament " group block, please enter through the link below or you may call the hotel directly at 740-593-6661 (866-593-6661) and ask for the Ohio University Forensics Tournament rate.  For details information about The Ohio University Inn & Conference Center as well as directions to Athens, please visit our website at [www.ouinn.com](http://www.ouinn.com)

**Registration:** Registration and ballot drop will be held in the HONORS COLLEGIUM on the 4th floor of the Baker University Center on the Ohio University Campus. PLEASE NOTE THIS IS THE SAME AS LAST YEAR, but different from nationals. The facility, in addition to housing southeastern Ohio’s only escalators, has a food court, which will be open for lunch, as well as two coffee shops. **The Baker Center nor our classroom buildings DO NOT OPEN before 7 am.** Additionally, we are sharing our campus with a number of events this weekend. As such, we will assign each school a warm up room prior to your arrival on campus

**Hospitality:** A continental breakfast will be provided each morning, and snacks will be provided each afternoon. There is a $3 per person charge for hospitality each day.

**Awards:** Trophies will be awarded to all students placing in varsity individual events and all students who advance to debate elimination rounds. Medals will be awarded to all students placing in Novice events. Sweepstakes Awards will be awarded to the top three schools in Debate, the top three Open Entry IE Schools, the top three Focused Entry Schools at each tournament and the top overall Schools entered in both Speech and Debate. Individual Sweepstakes awards will also be presented to the top competitors entered in four or more events.

**Entries:** Please register for the tournament at [forensicstournament.net](http://forensicstournament.net). If you have not used this site before, you will need to create an account before you will be able to register. You will need to register for each tournament separately.

**2016 Ohio University IIET**

**January 29 – February 1, 2015 – Athens, Ohio**

**Friday, January 30, 2015**

11:00 am Registration for Impromptu Debate, Public Forum and Congress

11:45 am Topic Announcement - Impromptu Debate

Noon Round 1 – Impromptu Debate, Public Forum, Scholarly Paper & Interviewing

1:00 pm Topic Announcement - Impromptu Debate

1:15 pm Round 2

2:15 pm Topic Announcement - Impromptu Debate

2:30 pm Round 3

3:30 pm Topic Announcement - Impromptu Debate

3:45 pm Round 4

5:00 pm Topic Announcement - Impromptu Debate

5:15 pm Elim Round 1

\*Please note - we only advance 25% of the field to elimination rounds in debate but award through 6th place.

ASAP Awards

# Saturday, January 31, 2015 - Ohio University IIET

 7:00 – 8:00 am Registration for IE’s Baker University Center

 8:00 Extemp Draw

 8:30 – 9:45 am Round I Pattern A

 9:45 Broadcast Draw

 Grad Division Poetry Slam Round 1

10:15 -- 11:30 am Round I Pattern B

11:30 Extemp Draw

Noon – 1:15 pm Round II Pattern A

 1:15 Radio Draw

 1:45 – 3:00 pm Round II Pattern B

 3:00 Extemp Draw

 Grad Division Poetry Slam Round 2

 3:30 – 4:30 pm Finals/Round III Pattern A

 4:30 Broadcast Draw

 Grad Division Poetry Slam FINALS

 5:00 – 6:15 pm Finals/Round III Pattern B, LD

 LD Elims Continue

 7:00 pm Awards Ceremony

**Please note that the Saturday schedule may need to be adjusted to meet the needs of two tournaments running at the same time.**

**Impromptu Debate**

Philosophically similar to original Parliamentary Debate it follows the same time format (7-8-8-8-4-5) with 15 minutes prep along with the following format changes.

1. Topics are announced in each competition room at the time posted and with both teams and the judge present.
2. After the topic announcement, all spectators must vacate the room while the teams and judge remain. Teams leaving the room will be awarded a loss.
3. No team may consult any material (online or hard copy) during the preparation time. Questions about definitions will be answered by the judge.
4. No team may consult with any person (other than their team mate) during the preparation time.
5. Teams will be provided with paper on which to take notes or flow the debate. Computers, cell phones or other electronic devices may not be used in preparation or during the debate.
6. Judges, who serve as coaches, may not leave the room to coach their students or communicate with them via cell phone or computer technology during the preparation time.

**College Public Forum**

1. **Philosophy:** Public Forum focuses on advocacy of a position derived from the issues presented in the resolution. Competitors in this team event advocate or reject a position posed by a resolution (prepared by the College Public Forum committee and distributed via the IE-L). The clash of idea must be communicated in a manner persuasive to the non-specialist or “citizen judge”, i.e. a member of the American jury. Public Forum should:
	1. **Display solid logic, lucid reasoning, and depth of analysis.**
	2. **Utilize evidence without being driven by it.**
	3. **Present a clash of ideas by countering/refuting arguments of the opposing team (rebuttal)**
	4. **Communicate ideas with civility, clarity, organization, eloquence, and professional decorum.**

This is not a debate event, per se, and as such, teams do not have prime facie burdens or the burden of rejoinder. Instead, teams are asked to advocate for (pro) or against (con) the ideas and policies represented within the resolution.

Since this is not a debate event, in the traditional sense, teams are prohibited from utilizing plans (formalized comprehensive proposals for implementation), counterplans and kritiks (off-topic arguments). Multiple competitive venues exist for the application of these argumentative strategies.

1. **Resolutions:** Resolutions will be distributed four times in this inaugural year. Topics will be announced on the IE-L.
	1. Sept 17 for tournaments Oct 1-31.
	2. Oct 25 for tournaments Nov 5-Dec 5.
	3. Jan 7 for tournaments Jan 14-Feb 21
	4. Feb 11 for the National Tournament, Feb 25 at Butler University in Indianapolis, IN.
2. **Procedure and order of speeches:** Prior to EVERY round and in the presence of the judge(s), a coin is tossed by one team and called by the other team. The team that wins the flip may choose one of two options: EITHER the SIDE of the topic they wish to defend (pro or con) OR the SPEAKING POSITION they wish to have (begin the debate or end the debate). The remaining option (SIDE OR SPEAKING POSITION) is the choice of the team that loses the flip. Once speaking positions and sides have been determined, the debate begins (the con team may lead, depending on the coin flip results). Note: The round begins at the conclusion of the coin flip/sides/positions discussion. Contestants may not leave the room or consult with coaches after the coin flip, which begins the round.
	1. First Speaker – Team A 5 minutes
	2. First Speaker – Team B 5 minutes
	3. Crossfire (first question by speaker A1) 3 minutes
	4. Second Speaker – Team A 5 minutes
	5. Second Speaker – Team B 5 minutes
	6. Crossfire (first question by A2) 3 minutes
	7. Summary – First Speaker – Team A 3 minutes
	8. Summary – First Speaker – Team B 3 minutes
	9. Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team A 3 minutes
	10. Closing Arguments – Second Speaker – Team B 3 minutes
	11. Prep Time 2 minutes per team
3. **Timing:** Judges and/or debaters should keep track of speaking time.

1. **Plans/Counterplans:** In College Public Forum, neither side is permitted to offer a plan nor a counterplan (formalized comprehensive proposal for implementation). Instead, each team should offer reasoning to support a position of advocacy. Debaters may offer generalized, practical solutions.
2. **Oral Critiques:** No debate ballot may be turned in without a reason for decision. Oral commentary is not considered a substitute for the written ballot. CPF and the ICFL discourage judges from disclosing decisions in preliminary rounds of competition. The ballot serves as a valuable educational tool to the teams and their coaches. Comments made by a judge (orally or written) should be constructive and professional.
3. **Judges:** The use of community judges is strongly encouraged.
4. **Governance:** College Public Forum is sponsored by the PCSDL and all matters not covered in this description will be clarified by the PCSDL committee.
5. **National Tournament and Qualifications:** Each school in attendance at the College Public Forum National Tournament will be allowed to enter two at-large teams. All additional entries from each school must qualify for the national tournament by being ranked in the top half of teams (with no more than 8 qualifications at any tournament) at a sanctioned Public Forum Tournament during the regular season.
6. **Sanctioning:** All College Public Forum participants are encouraged to be active members of this new forensics community and any and all suggestions and concerns should be directed to the ICFL committee. All College Public Forum tournaments must use the appropriate resolution and must be sanctioned by the ICFL. Sanctioning is available to all schools at the fee of $1 per team College Public Forum Team entered into competition. To receive sanctioning, a tournament must:
	1. Have a minimum of three schools competing in public forum
	2. Have a minimum of 4 teams in attendance.
	3. Hold a minimum of 4 rounds of competition.
	4. Use the appropriate CPF topic.
	5. Submit a completed sanctioning form (attached)
	6. Submit a complete set of tournament results (prelim rounds as well as a completed elim bracket, clearly identifying first and last names as well as school affiliations of all competitors).
	7. Pay the sanctioning fee.
	8. NOTE: Any school in attendance may complete the sanctioning process for a tournament.
7. **A guide to competing in Public Forum can be found at:** [**http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/cr103pf\_instr.pdf**](http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/AboutNFL/cr103pf_instr.pdf)

***Note: This guide was written for high school Public Forum, and the events have slight differences.***

1. **A guide to judging Public Forum can be found at:** [**http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/CoachingResources/Public%20Forum%20Judge%20Overview.pdf**](http://www.nflonline.org/uploads/CoachingResources/Public%20Forum%20Judge%20Overview.pdf)

***Note: This guide was written for high school Public Forum, and the events have slight differences.***

1. **Sample resolutions:** Listed below are resolutions used in High School Public Forum. College Public Forum will use resolutions similar to the ones listed below:
	1. Resolved: That, by 2040, the federal government should mandate that all new passenger vehicles and light trucks sold in the United States be powered by alternative fuels
	2. Resolved: That the United States government should implement universal health care modeled after the French system."
	3. Resolved: That the United States should significantly increase its use of nuclear energy.
	4. Resolved: That the United States should implement a military draft.
	5. Resolved: That the US Government should increase social services for indigenous peoples in America.
	6. Resolved: That eliminating United States government budget deficits should be prioritized over increasing domestic spending.
	7. Resolved: That the [Fairness Doctrine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fairness_Doctrine) should be reinstated.
	8. Resolved: That the private ownership of handguns should be banned in the United States
2. **For more information:** If you are interested in competing in College Public Forum, there are many resources available at the National Forensics League at <http://www.nflonline.org>

**Public Speaking Events**

**PowerPoint Sales Speaking –** Contestants will prepare and present an original sales presentation utilizing PowerPoint (or any other presentation software). For the 2014-15 season, all contestants must sell a “service.” Judges will assess the presentation based on sales principles (Approach, Needs Assessment, Product Presentation, Overcoming Objections, Closing and Communication Skills) and NOT on their personal interest or need for the service. Contestants may choose to define a target audience for their service in their presentation (e.g. “As high school teachers…”).

The use of presentation software is required. PLEASE NOTE: Students must provide their own presentation technology (other than a screen). Total time is 15 minutes, including set up, tear down and presentation. Students will be evaluated on:

* Set up and tear down of equipment
* Sales techniques
* Presentation skills
* Design of presentation “slides”
* Use of presentation technology

**Scholarly (Conference) Paper/Presentation** - Contestants will submit 4 copies of an original scholarly paper suitable for presentation at an academic conference at the beginning of a tournament.  During preliminary rounds, papers will be "competing" head-to-head, like in debate.  A judge will receive 2 papers and be asked to rank them first and second.  Papers may be on any subject and judges are asked to put aside their research preferences to assess the overall quality of the paper.  The top 4 papers will advance to a Top Papers Panel (Final Round) where they will each author will present their paper (8-10 minutes) much like they should at a conference.  A panel of judges will assess their presentation and rank the contestants.   PLEASE NOTE:  A SEPARATE GRADUATE STUDENT DIVISION WILL BE HELD IN THIS EVENT at invitationals and nationals.  Graduate students competing in Research Paper will still be able to judge speech and debate events at the tournament.

**Stand Up Comedy** – Contestants will present an original 3-4 minute stand up comedy set. Comics learn quickly that the cleaner you work, the more you work. Your material should be appropriate for network (not cable) television. While there are numerous sites that provide instruction on how to prepare a Stand-Up Comedy program, the following provides an excellent overview: <http://www.standupcomedyclinic.com/1407/top-10-tips-for-performing-in-comedy-competitions2/>

**Ted Talks** – An original speech by the student that follows the format of Ted Talks. Any use of audio visual aids or technology is entirely the responsibility of the performer. Speeches are 8-10 minutes.  Final round at nationals will be videotaped for a TedEx event. While there are numerous sites that provide instruction on how to present a Ted Talk, the following provides an excellent overview: <http://www.presentationzen.com/presentationzen/2009/05/making-presentations-in-the-ted-style.html>

**Interviewing -** Interviewing is designed to give students the opportunity to sharpen their questioning, job interviewing and resume writing skills. The event will consist of two rounds of interviews which will take place during the tournament and a third round where students will have their resumes evaluated by a judge.

Students will be applying for a generic summer internship in their field. A specific job announcement will be sent to those schools wishing to participate in the event.

Schedule like debate, in Rounds 1 & 2, competitors will be matched head to head. A judge will interview each competitor for a maximum of 10 minutes using an interview protocol provided by the tournaments. Judges will evaluate students on the interviewing skill and not whether they are a good fit for the job description. This event may be double flighted with each judge interviewing four competitors in one time block.

Round 3 will also be scheduled like a debate, however the judge will evaluate the resumes of the competitors, again evaluating them on the presentation and professionalism of the document and not their qualifications.

The first elimination round will be an interview and will alternate with resume evaluation rounds until tournament is finished.

Competitors in this event MUST submit 10 copies of their resumes at registration. Failure to submit a resumes will result in being dropped from the event.

**Acting/Interpretation/Performance Events**

**Audition Monologue** - Students present a 2-3 minute monologue from a published play.  Tournaments may designate if the monologue should be humorous, serious or classical and whether the performer should perform one or multiple monologues for the contest.

Auditions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

•  Ability to urgently pursue strong, clear objectives. (Has the actor identified a strong goal or task to pursue in the scene and are they consistently in "high stakes" pursuit of that task)?

•  Ability to make varied, specific and bold acting choices. (Is the actor employing different tactics in pursuit of the overall task, are those tactics clear, interesting and specific? Is the actor avoiding the traps of generalizing, emoting, indicating, and playing a single character "color" or "quality" throughout the scene)?
•  Mastery of an expressive and flexible vocal and physical instrument. (Does the actor have vocal and physical control? Can they be heard and understood throughout the audition? Is the audition free of superfluous energy or tension vocally or physically)?

•  Demonstration of facility with language and a clear understanding of the text. (Has the actor met the specific demands of the language in the text? Do the actor's choices seem grounded in, and informed by a broader understanding of the entire play)?
•  Demonstration of range and contrast.

Given the above criteria actors are strongly encouraged to select and prepare material for auditions that will demonstrate the above competencies, and to avoid material designed to demonstrate the actor's cleverness as an end in and of itself.

Actors and coaches are also strongly encouraged to remember that all auditions will be evaluated primarily on an actor's ability to demonstrate the acting competencies listed above, whether the material selected is from contemporary drama, rock opera, musical theatre, Shakespeare, Moliere or Christopher Durang. Actors are expected to illuminate the truth of a character within the context of the world the playwright has created in keeping with the stylistic demands of the play, rather than use the material as a vehicle solely to illuminate their own beautiful singing voices, their dazzling sense of comedy and style, or their ability to entertain an audience. The advice below is particularly useful in helping the actor find and frame material that meets those expectations.
•  Find material that you could be cast in today.
•  Use material that is within your age range, your vocal range (especially if you're singing), your emotional range, and within the scope of your movement skills.
•  Avoid material that requires a dialect.
•  Choose material has a clear beginning and moves to a conclusion.
•  Use material that focuses on (or showcases) your character.
•  Avoid material that you have performed in a complete production.
•  Make certain that you select clearly contrasting material.

Choose material in which you have faith, and that which allows you to gain confidence as you rehearse.

**Great Speeches** - is an event in which the contestant performs a significant speech. For Spring 2016 speeches must come from the First or Second Wave Feminist movements.

Each speech (public address) must have been delivered by the speaker before the speaker's intended original audience. For example, "Sermon on the Mount" is Biblical Prose; "Antony's Funeral Oration" is Shakespearean Drama.

The performance consists of an introduction (maximum 2 minutes) and the performance of the selected text (maximum 8 minutes)

In the introduction, the contestant wilI include information about each author/speaker, subject, original audience, and occasion. The contestant must also justify the selection for presentation to the contestant's immediate audience. The justification need not be an explicit statement, but may include such subjects as the historical or potential importance, language style, rhetorical technique and audience appeal. Comments about textual accuracy and ghostwriting style may be included where appropriate.  All materials quoted, paraphrased, or summarized from other sources must be documented both orally and in the written text.

**The selected speech must have been published. Recorded speeches may be used only if they have also been published in print or online**

Judging should be on the general effectiveness of the student's interaction with the audience to share the greatness of the speech. The Judge's primary attention should be on the participant's judgment in choosing and editing the material, sensitivity to author's ideas and purpose, and, especially, the speaker's analysis of historical potential, and/or rhetorical importance of the speech. The student may, but is not required to, use a rhetorical model.  Secondly, delivery emphasis should be on communication. Since this is not a prose interpretation event, posturing, impersonation, and imitation are to be avoided.

The student should, at no time, attempt to imitate or assume the persona of the speaker.

The use of a script is optional, provided it is not used as a prop.

**Improvisational Duo –** Preparation time for Improvisational Duo is three minutes. Preparation time is separate from performance time. Performance time must be a minimum of three minutes and a maximum of six with a 30-second grace period. Contestants going over or under the allotted time and grace period may not be ranked first in that round. The judge should clarify with the students before they begin how time signals will be communicated and must then give hand signals as the contestants are performing to help them stay within the time limit. No make-up, costumes, props, or lighting are permitted, but a table and/or two chairs may be used. Doors and walls are considered props and must not be used. The scene must contain only two characters with equal sharing of dialogue. An introduction by one or both students is **REQUIRED** to set the scene, and a resolution of the conflict must be evident at the end of the scene. Excessive profanity, sexual innuendo, or excessive physicality (i.e. pushing, shoving, and striking) **will NOT** be tolerated. Contestants are to remain outside of the room until it is their time to perform. Once they have finished with their performance they must remain in the room (unless they are cross entered) until the round is complete.

*Hints for Improvisational Duo Judges:* The scene must be a self-contained unit holding together a story itself. Students must resolve the conflict presented in the topic. Criteria for judging include teamwork of the actors, timing, movement, consistent characterization, good speaking skills, pantomime of props, and the comedic or dramatic effect of the scene on the audience.

## Poetry Slam: Contestants will perform one self-authored poem. No introduction, other than the title of the poem, will be giving. Scripts may not be used. Maximum time limit is 3 minutes. PLEASE NOTE:  For the 2014-2015 season, A SEPARATE GRADUATE STUDENT DIVISION WILL BE HELD IN THIS EVENT.

## *Poems and performance*

1. Poems can be on any subject and in any style.
2. Each poet must perform work that he or she has created.
3. No props, blocking, musical instruments, pre-recorded music or costumes.

The rule concerning props and blocking is not intended to squelch the spontaneity, unpredictability, or on-the-fly choreography that people love about the slam; its intent is to keep the focus on the words rather than poets who movement and/or dance to convey the ideas and meaning inherent in the words of the poem.

***Sampling***

It is acceptable for poets to incorporate, imitate, or otherwise "signify on" the words, lyrics, or tune of someone else (commonly called "sampling") in their own work. If they are only riffing off another's words, they should expect only healthy controversy; if on the other hand, they are ripping off another poet's words, they should expect scornful contumely.

***The No Repeat Rule***

Poems may not be repeated in prelims rounds. Students advancing to finals must perform one of their poems from prelims. Each poet should plan on bringing THREE original poems to compete.

***The Three-Minute Rule***

No performance should last longer than three minutes. The time begins when the performance begins, with the statement (or a similar equivalent): “My poem is entitled (called, named, etc)…” No other introduction is necessary.

Judges will provide time signals. Performances lasting longer than three minutes and ten seconds should not be ranked first in the round.

**Limited Preparation Speaking Events**

**Current Events Speaking**:

PURPOSE: A speech designed to motivate audience consideration of a significant argument related to a current domestic or international issue or event.

DESCRIPTION: Current Events speeches are characterized by content that is directly and specifically topical, clearly stated and well-supported arguments, demonstration of a knowledge of current events, credible sources, timeliness, and vocal and nonverbal delivery choices that reflect the speech’s purpose.

RULES:

a. Students will construct and deliver a 5 to 7 minute speech\*, after choosing from among three questions, with 30 minutes of preparation.  The use of limited notes is allowed.

b. Current Events speeches must be the original work of the speaker.  Consultation with coaches, teammates, other speakers, or anyone else after the draw has begun is strictly prohibited.

c. Current Events speeches should be prepared after topics have been drawn.  While speakers are encouraged to draw from their own knowledge of current events, no student is allowed to speak from outlines, briefs, or other materials prepared before the round.  Students are encouraged to consult and reference research from a variety of sources including newspapers, magazines, journals, books, websites and blogs - providing these resources lack excessive notation and alteration.

d.  Electronic methods of resource material storage and retrieval may be used during preparation time.  Students should be able to retrieve cited material upon judge request.  Students MAY obtain new research during their preparation time through the use of electronic devices such as but not limited to computers, cell phones, and personal data assistants, however tournaments WILL NOT guarantee access to internet.

PROCEDURES:

a. Tournament hosts are not responsible for supplying support of any kind for electronic storage or retrieval methods.

b. Tournament hosts are not responsible for the security of computers or other devices stored in the extemporaneous preparation room.

c. Standard time signals should be given noting the time remaining for the speaker beginning at five minutes remaining and indicating each minute thereafter, the final 30 seconds and the closing five seconds nonverbally.

**Editorial Impromptu:** Students will be given a short editorial (ideally 3 to 5 paragraphs) to which they will develop a response.  Students will be allowed nine minutes to divide between preparation and speech time.  Speakers must speak for at least five minutes.  Limited notes, prepared in the round, are permitted. Judges will provide time signals.

*Event Description:* Editorial Impromptu represents an attempt to return “impromptu” to Impromptu speaking.  The speech should involve the development of an argument in response to the thesis developed or opinion shared in a given editorial.  The event resembles typical impromptu speaking in many ways, with the following important exceptions:

1. Topicality is more obviously inherent in the editorial format.
2. The development of argumentation is featured over pre-planned exemplification.
3. Social issues often ignored in other formats are fair game.
4. Historical editorials might also add a dimension to the event.
5. The sharing of opinion, as well as a consideration of the opinions of audience members may play a more central role,
6. The event more closely resembles real-life discussion than existing limited preparation formats.
7. Students are rewarded for possessing and articulating a wider breadth of knowledge than existing formats.
8. This format also encourages the development of skills related to evaluating arguments and analyzing rhetoric.

**Radio News Broadcasting:** Contestants will be given a packet of source materials and will have 30 minutes to select and organize a 5 minute simulated radio new broadcast. All material used in the broadcast must be provided by the tournament with the exception of any hypothetical station call letters, time and current weather conditions or forecast and no more than one commercial (maximum 30 seconds). Contestants should strive to present a broadcast that resembles a live radio news segment and refrain from humorous devices (like the traffic girl falling out of the traffic copter or Bigfoot rampaging through town, etc). Maximum time limit for the speech is 5 minutes. Students will be seated at a table during the performance and may use a stopwatch since time signals will not be given. Judges will not face the contestant during the speech. Students will speak in listed order.